

REMARKS

Claims 3, 4 and 10-15 are pending. Support for the amendment to claim 3 may be found in the specification as originally filed, for example, original claims 1 and 3.

I. The Rejections Based on Geer et al

Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as allegedly being anticipated by Geer et al.

Claims 5-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as allegedly obvious over Geer et al.

Claims 1, 2 and 5-9 are cancelled.

Claim 3 is amended to be in independent form to include the subject matter of claim 1.

The Examiner states that “[w]ith respect to method claim 3, the Examiner construes the method as only requiring a mixture of metal/metal oxide, conductive polymer and water to be in contact with each other and such a composition is expressly taught in Geer.”

Applicants respectfully submit that the present invention is not anticipated by or obvious over the disclosures of Geer and request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw this rejection in view of the following remarks.

Applicants’ method steps recite:

allowing an electroconductive polymer and a metal having a work function less than that of said electroconductive polymer to be brought into contact with one another;

keeping the contact between said metal and said electroconductive polymer, under the presence of *absorbed* water, so as to create the state of coexistence and forming a galvanic battery between three substances consisting of said metal, a cation radical/dication in the electroconductive polymer and said absorbed water; and

entering a formed metal oxide/hydroxide into the electroconductive polymer, and diffusingly moving therein to reside in nano-space between chains of said electroconductive polymer.

For the above reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of claims 3, 4 and 10-15 is neither taught by nor made obvious from the disclosures of Geer and it is requested that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102 be reconsidered and withdrawn.

II. Conclusion

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully submit that their claimed invention is allowable and ask that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102 be reconsidered and withdrawn. Applicants respectfully submit that this case is in condition for allowance and allowance is respectfully solicited.

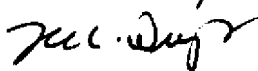
If any points remain at issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the local exchange number listed below.

Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. §1.116
Application No. 10/526,147
Attorney Docket No. 052095

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lee C. Wright", is positioned above the printed name.

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